



# House Select Committee on Homeland Security Democrats

**JIM TURNER, Ranking Member**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Democrats: DHS Vulnerability Assessment is Flawed**

Congressman Jim Turner, Ranking Democrat of the House Select Committee on Homeland Security, joined by twelve Democratic members of the Committee, sent a letter today to Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge calling the Department's efforts to complete a comprehensive critical infrastructure vulnerability assessment seriously flawed.

"We are concerned that methodological flaws in the process are resulting in an incomplete and flawed vulnerability assessment," the letter stated. "The inconsistencies of critical infrastructure listings between cities suggest that the Department's approach is not comprehensive enough to ensure that all the essential assets of our country are catalogued."

"Completing the threat and vulnerability assessment as soon as possible and with a sound methodology is critical because it will determine our security priorities. Right now, the Administration and Congress are driving the homeland security effort without a roadmap. Only with a comprehensive risk assessment can we protect communities against the terrorist threats we face," said Turner.

The letter requests that DHS ensure it has the resources needed to complete the assessment and also requests a timeline that details the progress of the Department in completing the risk assessment.

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